

## OBN

contract, which has rendered them part of the Devil's possession, and contrive how they may *obliterate* that reproach, and disentangle their mortgaged souls. *Decay of Piety.*

These simple ideas, the understanding can no more refuse to have, or alter, or blot them out, than a mirror can refuse, alter, or *obliterate* the images, which the objects set before it produce. *Locke.*

**OBLETATION.** *n. f.* [*obliteratio*, Latin.] Effacement; extinction.

Considering the casualties of wars, transigrations, especially that of the general flood, there might probably be an *obliteration* of all those monuments of antiquity that ages precedent at some time have yielded. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*

**OBLIVION.** *n. f.* [*oblivio*, Latin.]

1. Forgetfulness; cessation of remembrance.

Water-drops have worn the stones of Troy,  
And blind *oblivion* swallow'd cities up,  
And mighty states characterless are graced  
To duty nothing. *Shaksp. Troil. and Cressida.*

Thou shouldst have heard many things of worthy memory,  
Which now shall die in *oblivion*, and thou return unexperienced  
to thy grave. *Shaksp. Taming of the Shrew.*

Knowledge is made by *oblivion*, and to purchase a clear  
and warrantable body of truth, we must forget and part with  
much we know. *Brown's Vulgar Err. Pref.*

Can they imagine, that God has therefore forgot their  
sins, because they are not willing to remember them? Or  
will they measure his pardon by their own *oblivion*? *South.*

Among our crimes *oblivion* may be let;

But 'tis our king's perfection to forget. *Dryden.*

2. Amnely; general pardon of crimes in a state.

By the act of *oblivion*, all offences against the crown, and  
all particular trespasses between subject and subject, were pardoned,  
remitted, and utterly extinguished. *Davies.*

**OBLIVIOUS.** *adj.* [*obliviosus*, Latin.] Causing forgetfulness.

Raze out the written troubles of the brain,  
And with some sweet *oblivious* antidote  
Cleanse the stuff'd bosom. *Shaksp. Macbeth.*

Exult to see the crouching ghosts descend  
Unnumber'd; well aveng'd, they quit the cares  
Of mortal life, and drink th' *oblivious* lake. *Philips.*

Oh born to see what none can see awake!  
Behold the wonders of th' *oblivious* lake. *Pope's Dunci.*

**OBLONG.** *adj.* [*oblongus*, Fr. *oblongus*, Latin.] Longer than  
broad; the same with a rectangle parallelogram, whose sides  
are unequal. *Harr.*

The best figure of a garden I esteem an *oblong* upon a de-  
fect. *Temple's Miscell.*

Every particle, supposing them globular or not very oblong,  
would be above nine million times their own length from any  
other particle. *Bentley's Sermons.*

**OBLONGLY.** *adv.* [from *oblong*.] In an oblong direction.

The surface of the temperate climates is larger than it  
would have been, had the globe of our earth or of the plan-  
ets, been either spherical, or *oblongly* spheroidal. *Cheyne.*

**OBLONGNESS.** *n. f.* [from *oblong*.] The state of being oblong.

**OBLIQUE.** *n. f.* [*obliquus*, Latin.]

1. Cenforious speech; blame; slander; reproach.

Reasonable moderation hath freed us from being deservedly  
subject unto that bitter kind of *obloquy*, whereby as the church  
of Rome doth, under the colour of love towards those things  
which be harmless, maintain extremely most hurtful corrup-  
tions; so we peradventure might be upbraided, that under  
colour of hatred towards those things that are corrupt, we  
are on the other side as extreme, even against most harm-  
less ordinances. *Hosker, b. iv. f. 14.*

Here new aspersions, with new *obloquies*,  
Are laid on old defects. *Daniel's Civil War.*

Canst thou with impious *obloquy* condemn  
The just decree of God, pronounce'd and sworn? *Arilton.*

Shall names that made your city the glory of the earth, be  
mentioned with *obloquy* and detraction? *Adison.*

Every age might perhaps produce one or two true genius,  
if they were not sunk under the censure and *obloquy* of plod-  
ding, servile, imitating pedants. *Swift.*

2. Cause of reproach; disgrace. Not proper.

My chastity's the jewel of our house,  
Bequeathed down from many ancestors;  
Which were the greatest *obloquy* 't' world  
In me to lose. *Shaksp. As You Like It.*

**OBMUTESCENCE.** *n. f.* [from *obmutescere*, Latin.] Loss of speech.

A vehement tear often produceth *obmutescence*. *Brown.*

**OBNOXIOUS.** *n. f.* [*obnoxius*, Latin.]

1. Subject.

I propound a character of justice in a middle form, be-  
tween the speculative discourses of philosophers, and the  
writings of lawyers, which are tied and *obnoxious* to their  
particular laws. *Bacon's Holy War.*

2. Liable to punishment.

## OBS

All are *obnoxious*, and this faulty land,  
Like fainting Hæster, does before you stand,  
Watching your sceptre. *Waller.*

We know ourselves *obnoxious* to God's severe justice, and that  
he is a God of mercy and hatred sin; and therefore that we  
might not have the least suspicion of his unwillingness to re-  
give, he hath sent his only begotten son into the world, by  
his dismal sufferings and curd death, to expiate our offences. *Culinary's Sermons.*

Thy name, O Varus, if the kinder powers  
Preserve our plains, and shield the Mantuan towers,  
*Obnoxious* by Cretina's neighbouring crime,  
The wings of swans, and stronger pious rhyme  
Shall raise aloft. *Dryden.*

3. Liable; exposed.

Long hostility had made their friendship weak  
And more *obnoxious* to jealousies and distrust. *Hopkins.*

But what will not ambition and revenge  
Defend to who aspires, mult down as low  
As high he soar'd; *obnoxious* first or last,  
To basest things. *Adison's Paradise.*

To dew *obnoxious* on the grassy floor. *Dryden.*

**OBNOXIOUSNESS.** *n. f.* [from *obnoxius*.] Subject; liable-  
ness to punishment.

**OBNOXIOUSLY.** *adv.* [from *obnoxius*.] In a state of sub-  
jection; in the state of one liable to punishment.

To **OBNUBILATE.** *v. a.* [*obnubilare*, Latin.] To cloud, to  
obscure.

**O'BOLE.** *n. f.* [*obolus*, Latin.] In pharmacy, twelve grains.

**OBRECTION.** *n. f.* [*obreptio*, Latin.] The act of creeping.

To **OEROGATE.** *v. a.* [*oerogare*, Latin.] To proclaim a con-  
trary law for the dissolution of the former. *Locke.*

**OBSCENE.** *adj.* [*obscene*, Fr. *obsceneus*, Latin.]

1. Immodest; not agreeable to chastity of mind; causing  
ideas.

Chemos th' *obscene* dread of Moab's sons. *Alston.*

Words that were once chaste, by frequent use grow  
and uncleanly. *Waller's Letters.*

2. Offensive; disgusting.

A girdle foul with grease binds his *obscene* attire. *Dryden.*

Home as they went, the sad discourse renew'd,  
Of the relentless dame to death pursu'd,  
And of the fight *obscene* to lately view'd. *Dryden.*

3. Inauspicious; ill omened.

Care slurs thy walks, as at the cheerful light  
The groaning ghosts, and birds *obscene* take flight.  
It is the sun's late like your's, to be displeasing to day  
and *obscene* animals, who cannot bear his lustre. *Pope's Letters.*

**OBSCENELX.** *adj.* [from *obscene*.] In an impure and unchaste  
manner.

**OBSCENES.** *n. f.* [*obscene*, Fr. from *obscene*.] Impure  
thought or language; unchastity.

Mr. Cowley asserts plainly, that *obscene* has no place  
in wit. *Dryden.*

These fables were tempered with the Italian *obscene*,  
free from any note of infamy or *obscene*. *Dryden.*

Thou art wickedly devout,  
In Tiber ducking thrice by break of day,  
To wash th' *obscenities* of night away. *Dryden.*

No pardon vile *obscenity* should find,  
Tho' wit and art conspire to move your mind. *Pope.*

**OBSCURATION.** *n. f.* [*obscuratione*, Latin.]

1. The act of darkening.

As to the sun and moon, their *obscuration* or change of  
colour happens commonly before the eruption of a fiery  
mountain. *Dryden.*

2. A state of being darkened.

**OBSCURE.** *adj.* [*obscurus*, Fr. *obscurus*, Latin.]

1. Dark; unenlightened; gloomy; hindring light.

Who curd his father or mother, his *obscure* shall  
out in *obscure* darkness. *Pope's Letters.*

Who shall tempt with wand'ring feet  
The dark unbottom'd infinite abyss,  
And thro' the palpable *obscure* fluid out  
His uncouth way? *Milton's Paradise.*

2. Living in the dark.

The *obscure* bird clamour'd the live-long night.  
Be the chief mourner at his *obsequies*. *Dryden.*

Alas! poor Poll, my Indian talker dies,  
Go birds and celebrate his *obsequies*. *Creech.*

It is found in the singular, perhaps more properly.  
Or tune a song of victory to me,  
Or to thyself, sing thine own *obsequy*. *Crashaw.*

Him I'll solemnly attend,  
With silent *obsequy* and funeral train,  
Home to his father's house. *Milton's Agnition.*

1. To darken; to make dark.

Sudden the thunder blackens all the skies,  
And the winds whistle, and the furies roll  
Mountains on mountains, and *obscure* the pole. *Pope.*

2. To

## OBS

2. To make less visible.

They are all couched in a pit hard by Heme's oak, with  
*obscured* lights; which at the very instant of Falstaff's and  
our meeting, they will at once display to the night. *Shaksp.*

What must I hold a candle to my flames?  
They in themselves, good sooth, are too, too light.  
Why, 'tis an office of discovery, love, *Shaksp. M. of Venice.*

And I should be *obscure*d.  
Thinking by this retirement to *obscure* himself from God,  
he infringed the omniscience and essential ubiquity of his  
maker. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

3. To make less intelligible.

By private consent it hath been used in dangerous times  
to *obscure* writing, and make it hard to be read by others not  
acquainted with the intrigue. *Holder.*

There is scarce any duty which has been so *obscured* by the  
writings of learned men, as this. *Waller.*

4. To make less glorious, beautiful, or illustrious.

1. Not brightly; not luminously.

2. Out of sight; privately; without notice; not conspicuously.

Such was the site of this prodigious fire,  
Which in mean buildings first *obscurely* bred,  
From thence did soon to open streets aspire. *Dryden.*

There live retir'd,  
Content thyself to be *obscurely* good. *Adison's Cato.*

Let him go, pursued by silent wrath,  
Meet unexpected daggers in his way,  
And in some distant land *obscurely* die. *Irene.*

3. Not clearly; not plainly.

**OBSCURENESS.** *n. f.* [*obscuritas*, Lat. *obscuritas*, Fr.]

**OBSCURITY.** *n. f.* [*obscuritas*, Lat. *obscuritas*, Fr.]

1. Darknes; want of light.

Lo! a day of darkness and *obscurity*, tribulation and an-  
guish, upon the earth. *Esther xi. 8.*

Should Cynthia quit thee, Venus, and each star,  
It would not form one thought dark as mine are:  
I could lend them *obscurer* now, and say,  
Out of myself there should be no more day. *Donne.*

2. Unnoticed state; privacy.

You are not for *obscurity* design'd,  
But, like the sun, must cheer all human kind. *Dryden.*

3. Darknes of meaning.

Not to mention that *obscurer* that attends prophetic rap-  
tures, there are divers things knowable by the bare light of  
nature, which yet are so uneasy to be satisfactorily understood  
by our imperfect intellects, that let them be delivered in the  
clearest expressions, the notions themselves will yet appear  
*obscure*. *Boyle on Colours.*

That this part of sacred scripture had difficulties in it:  
many causes of *obscurity* did readily occur to me. *Locke.*

What lies beyond our positive idea towards infinity, lies  
in *obscurity*, and has the undetermined confusion of a nega-  
tive idea, wherein I know I do not comprehend all I would,  
it being too large for a finite capacity. *Locke.*

**OBSCURATION.** *n. f.* [*obscuratio*, from *obscurus*, Lat.] Intreaty;  
supplication.

That these were comprehended under the sacra, is mani-  
fest from the old form of *obscuration*. *Stillingfleet.*

**OBSEQUES.** *n. f.* [*obsequi*, French. I know not whether  
this word be not anciently mistaken for *exequies*, *exequies*,  
Latin: this word, however, is apparently derived from *ob-*  
*sequium*.]

1. Funeral rites; funeral solemnities.

There was Dorilus valiantly requiring his friends help, in  
a great battle deprived of life, his *obsequies* being not more  
solemnized by the tears of his partakers, than the blood of  
his enemies. *Sidney, b. ii.*

Fair Juliet, that with angels dost remain,  
Accept this latest favour at my hand;  
That living honour'd thee, and being dead,  
With funeral *obsequies* adorn thy tomb. *Shaksp.*

These tears are my sweet Rutland's *obsequies*. *Shaksp.*

I spare the widows tears, their woful cries,  
And howling at their husbands *obsequies*;  
How Thebes at these funerals did affix,  
And with what gifts the mourning dames dismiss. *Dryden.*

His body shall be royally interr'd,  
I will, myself,  
Be the chief mourner at his *obsequies*. *Dryden.*

Alas! poor Poll, my Indian talker dies,  
Go birds and celebrate his *obsequies*. *Creech.*

It is found in the singular, perhaps more properly.  
Or tune a song of victory to me,  
Or to thyself, sing thine own *obsequy*. *Crashaw.*

Him I'll solemnly attend,  
With silent *obsequy* and funeral train,  
Home to his father's house. *Milton's Agnition.*

1. To darken; to make dark.

Sudden the thunder blackens all the skies,  
And the winds whistle, and the furies roll  
Mountains on mountains, and *obscure* the pole. *Pope.*

2. To

## OBS

**OBSEQUIOUS.** *adj.* [from *obsequium*, Latin.]

1. Obedient; compliant; not resisting.

Adore not to the rising son, that you forget the father, who  
raised you to this height; nor be you so *obsequious* to the fa-  
ther, that you give just cause to the son to suspect that you  
neglect him. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers.*

At his command th' up-rooted hills retir'd  
Each to his place; they heard his voice, and went  
*obsequious*. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

I follow'd her; she what was honour knew,  
And with *obsequious* majesty, approv'd  
My pleaded reason. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. viii.*

A genial cherishing heat acts so upon the fit and *obsequi-*  
ous matter, as to organize and fashion it according to the  
exigencies of its own nature. *Boyle.*

His servants weeping,  
*Obsequious* to his orders, bear him hither. *Add. Cato.*

The vote of an assembly, which we cannot reconcile to  
public good, has been conceived in a private brain, afterwards  
supported by an *obsequious* party. *Swift.*

2. In *Shakspere* it seems to signify, funeral; such as the rites  
of funerals require.

Your father lost a father;  
That father his; and the survivor bound  
In filial obligation, for some term,  
To do *obsequious* sorrow. *Shaksp. Hamlet.*

**OBSEQUIOUSLY.** *adv.* [from *obsequious*.]

1. Obediently; with compliance.

They rise, and with respectful awe,  
At the word giv'n, *obsequiously* withdraw. *Dryden.*

We cannot reasonably expect, that any one should readily  
and *obsequiously* quit his own opinion, and embrace ours with  
a blind resignation. *Locke.*

2. In *Shakspere* it signifies, with funeral rites; with reverence  
for the dead.

I a while *obsequiously* lament  
The untimely fall of virtuous Lancaster. *Shaksp. R. III.*

**OBSEQUIOUSNESS.** *n. f.* [from *obsequious*.] Obedience; com-  
pliance.

They apply themselves both to his interest and humour,  
with all the arts of flattery and *obsequiousness*, the surest and  
the readiest ways to advance a man. *South's Sermons.*

**OBSEQUIOUSLY.** *adv.* [from *obsequious*, Lat.] Remarkable; emi-  
nent; such as may deserve notice.

They do bury their dead with *obsequious* ceremonies. *Abbot.*

These proprieties affixed unto bodies from considerations  
deduced from east, west, or those *obsequious* points of the  
sphere, will not be justified from such foundations. *Brown.*

I took a just account of every *obsequious* circumstance of  
the earth, stone, metal, or other matter, from the surface  
quite down to the bottom of the pit, and entered it carefully  
into a journal. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*

The great and more *obsequious* occasions of exercising our  
courage, occur but seldom. *Rogers.*

**OBSEQUIOUSLY.** *adv.* [from *obsequious*.] In a manner worthy  
of note.

It is prodigious to have thunder in a clear sky, as is *ob-*  
*sequiously* recorded in some histories. *Brown's Vulgar Err.*

**OBSEQUIANCE.** *n. f.* [*obsequance*, Fr. *obsequus*, Latin.]

1. Respect; ceremonial reverence.

In the wood, a league without the town,  
Where I did meet thee once with Helena,  
To do *obsequance* on the morn of May. *Shakspere.*

Arcite left his bed, resolv'd to pay  
*Obsequance* to the month of merry May. *Dryden.*

2. Religious rite.

Some represent to themselves the whole of religion as con-  
sisting in a few easy *obsequances*, and never lay the least re-  
straint on the business or diversions of this life. *Rogers.*

3. Attentive practice.

Use all th' *obsequance* of civility,  
Like one well studied in a sad ostent  
To please his grandam. *Shaksp. M. of Venice.*

If the divine laws were proposed to our *obsequance*, with  
no other motive than the advantages attending it, they would  
be little more than an advice. *Rogers, Sermon 1.*

4. Rule of practice.

There are other strict *obsequances*;  
As, not to see a woman. *Shaksp. L. Labours Lost.*

5. Careful obedience.

We must attend our creator in all those ordinances which  
he has prescribed to the *obsequance* of his church. *Rogers.*

6. Observation; attention.

There can be no observation or experience of greater cer-  
tainty, as to the increase of mankind, than the strict and  
vigilant *obsequance* of the calculations and registers of the bills  
of births and deaths. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*

7. Obedient regard.

Having had such experience of his fidelity and *obsequance*  
abroad, he found himself engaged in honour to support him. *Milton.*

18 L